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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: William R. Kennedy, et al. Art Unit: 3637
Serial No.: 10/003,353
Filed: November 1, 2001
Confirmation No.: 5231
For: MINE DOOR LEAF AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF
Examiner: Phi Dieu Tran A

OK to enter
PA 6/19/05

June 10, 2005

REPLY BRIEF

This is a reply to the Examiner's Answer mailed May 18, 2005.

I. Amended Appeal Brief

Appellant submits herewith an Amended Appeal Brief. The Appeal Brief has been amended to include an Evidence Appendix and a Related Proceeding Appendix as required by 37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(ix) and (x), respectively. The added Appendices indicate that no evidence or information with regard to related proceeding is being submitted with the Appeal Brief.

In addition, the Appeal Brief has been amended to consistently refer to "appellant" (instead of appellants or applicants).

II. Grouping of Claims

The Answer incorrectly states that all of the claims stand or fall together. See page 2, paragraph 7. The statement is incorrect because the groups of claims presented in the Argument section of the brief and identified by subheadings A-E were properly set forth as separate subheadings and separately argued (see section VII of the brief). Appellant believes the brief is in accordance with the new appeal brief rules, specifically 37 C.F.R. 41.37(c)(1)(vii). Appellant respectfully points out that